**College-Ready Writers Program**

**Resources to “Routinely Teach Argument Writing”**

**Curated by Kathy Miller and Valorie Stokes**

**One Argument In-depth**

* **KQED Do Now** (current events) http://blogs.kqed.org/education/category/do-now/[**Do Now**](http://www.kqed.org/donow) is a weekly activity for students to engage and respond to current issues using social media tools like Twitter. Do Now aims to build civic engagement and digital literacy for young folks.
* **procon.org** (debate and critical thinking) Promoting [critical thinking,](http://www.procon.org/view.background-resource.php?resourceID=005476) education, and informed citizenship by presenting controversial issues in a straightforward, nonpartisan, primarily pro-con format.
* **The New York Times Learning Network** <http://learning.blogs.nytimes.com/> Materials based on New York Times content. They have many contests (We entered an editorial contest last year, and there were many argument resources. LOVE this resource.
* **Frontline** <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/teach/> I am a huge frontline fan. It is through PBS and is thought provoking documentaries. The lesson plans are amazing and promote critical thinking. A recent feature was on interrogation techniques and has students consider why someone would consider a false confession. Generally topics are controversial and great to teach argument writing.
* **Room for Debate** - New York Times <http://www.nytimes.com/roomfordebate>

**Single Texts for Reading, Writing and Debate**

* **Newsela** <https://newsela.com/> Great current event source presented in multiple SRI levels
* **Dogo News**<https://www.dogonews.com/> Current event news based on grade level spans
* **The Learning Network - Blog** with ideas for pairing classic literature with current events. <http://learning.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/11/22/ripped-from-the-headlines-and-applied-to-the-classics-ideas-for-pairing-fiction-and-nonfiction/>
* **Poetry 180** <http://www.loc.gov/poetry/180/> A poem a day for kids to read or listen to.
* **Scholastic** <http://www.scholastic.com/home/> Multiple archived issues and articles set up by genre and skill.
* **Readworks.org** Grade level and SRI texts with supporting resources
* Poetry Out Loud
* **Wing Clips** <http://www.wingclips.com/> Movie clips by topic or theme that you can download and use
* **Discover Magazine** <http://discovermagazine.com/> Lots of science articles and news.
* **Kennedy Center**  [**https://artsedge.kennedy-center.org/educators.aspx**](https://artsedge.kennedy-center.org/educators.aspx)Contains lessons centered around art topics-includes lesson plans, standards, video clips, sources materials, etc.
* Art21
* **American Memory** (Library of Congress) <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html> Contains historical photos, maps, primary documents, etc from American history.
* **PBS** <http://www.pbslearningmedia.org/> Current news and culture articles, ties to common core standards
* **Getty Search Gateway** (historical documents)<http://search.getty.edu/gateway/landing> (Images) The Getty Search Gateway allows users to search across several of the Getty repositories, including collections databases, library catalogs, collection inventories, and archival finding aids. - See more at: http://search.getty.edu/gateway/landing#sthash.h1Zh7G6k.dpuf
* **National Geographic**
* **vocabulary.com/howitworks**  Not one I use, but it does give articles to link to vocab.
* **Collections Online** – Museum of New Zealand
* **Common Sense Media** <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/> Lessons for students and teachers on using media with an emphasis on digital citizenship.
* **Ted Talks**<http://www.ted.com/talks/browse> Short powerful talks on contemporary issues. Love these. Depending on the paper, I have required one as a source or had students do an academic summary of one of their choosing.
* Pulitzer <http://www.pulitzer.org/bycat/Feature-Writing> Great site to have kids read nonfiction. I use a *What does it say? What does it mean? Why does it matter? format* when I have kids summarize these articles.
* This I Believe <http://thisibelieve.org/> Essays from people from all walks of life decribing core values.
* **Ignite** <http://igniteshow.com> Five-minute presentations on a variety of topics.
* **Essay 5 W** <http://essay5w.com/>
* **Ad Council** <http://adcouncil.org/>
* **PSA Central** <https://www.psacentral.org/home>
* **Cagle Political/Ed Cartoons** <http://www.cagle.com/>
* **Mic.com** <http://mic.com/>

**Educator Sites**

* **Harvard Writes** <http://harvardwrites.com/> Harvard faculty talk about elements of argument writing.
* **The Educator’s Guide to Reddit** (blogs for educators) (do not blog, but my friends love it)
* **Philosophical Chairs**  <http://www.d120.org/assets/1/avid/Using_Philosophical_Chairs.pdf> a strategy similar to debate. This shows exactly how to use it in the classroom.
* **Mindshift** <http://blogs.kqed.org/mindshift/about/>

Launched in 2010 by [KQED](http://www.kqed.org/) and [NPR](http://www.npr.org/), MindShift explores the future of learning in all its dimensions, covering cultural and technology trends, innovations in education, groundbreaking research, education policy, and more.

* **NCTE** - ncte.org
* **National Writing Project** - nwp.org
* **Prairie Lands Writing Project -** https://plwp.missouriwestern.edu/
* **Smarter Balanced Assessment**

[**http://achievethecore.org/**](http://achievethecore.org/)Lessons created to help teachers implement standards

* **readwritethink.org** <http://www.readwritethink.org/> Lesson plans in literacy
* **Edutopia** <http://www.edutopia.org/> Trending topics in education and lesson plans
* **Learn Zillions** <https://learnzillion.com/> Lessons built around standards, also access to informational videos in the steps of reaching objectives.
* **Writingfix.com** I love this site because it uses picture books to teach 6 traits. Elementary and middle school teachers will love it, especially. There are lots of lesson ideas, handouts, etc.
* **Art21** <http://www.pbs.org/art21/> Art 21 is a site devoted to promoting visual artists and inspiring critical thinking through art. It features videos, contemporary art, etc.
* **Teaching that Makes Sense** <http://www.ttms.org/> Love this site for literacy resources, writing prompts, how-to on writer’s workshop, etc.
* **Free Tech for Teachers** <http://www.freetech4teachers.com/> QR codes, You tube guides, Wiki spaces, etc. I don’t use this; our younger teachers love it.
* **Avid Summary-Writing Template** <http://www.hdwoodsonwarriors.org/ourpages/auto/2014/1/21/61553881/Analyzing%20and%20Summarizing%20Evidence%20Template.pdf> Love this to teach kids to write an academic summary
* **Explain Everything** - Tech too that uses an interactive whitboard <http://www.morriscooke.com/?p=134>
* **Google Scholar** - <http://scholar.google.com/> For research. Much like EBSCO host, only free
* **ESBCO Host** - or other research database supported by your school or local library.
* **OWL – Purdue University** <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/> This is a writing lab that helps with using source material, composing introductions, conclusions, “grammar” issues. It has resources for both teachers and students.
* **NBCLearn** <http://www.nbclearn.com/portal/site/learn> Educational forum from NBC news with teacher resources.
* **Common Core State Standards** - corestandards.org
* **readingandwritingproject.org** [http://readingandwritingproject.com/resources/publications-for-teachers /publications-lucy-calkins.html](http://readingandwritingproject.com/resources/publications-for-teachers/publications-lucy-calkins.html) I am a big Lucy Calkins fan. This is a site devoted to literacy, primarily in K-12 all linked to common core. Lots of student work to examine and suggested resources which I have adapted to high school.
* **Jim Burke -**<http://englishcompanion.com/resources/teaching-english/> Burke’s high impact instructional strategies
* **George Hillocks -**<http://www.heinemann.com/shared/onlineresources/e01396/intro>
* [andchapter1.pdf](http://www.heinemann.com/shared/onlineresources/e01396/introandchapter1.pdf)

An excerpt from his book on teaching argument if you don’t have the book handy: explains, claim, warrant, evidence, and all the relevant argument terms and how to get there.

* **Harvard Exposé -** <http://www.people.fas.harvard.edu/~expose/issues/issue_2011/index.html>
* **Article of the Week** - <http://www.kellygallagher.org/article-of-the-week/>; <http://www.teachingthecore.com/article-of-the-week-assignment/>
* **Graph of the Week** - <http://turnersgraphoftheweek.webs.com/>